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FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA JUL 16-30 PART II

07/16/10

BARACK OBAMA ON OIL SPILL LATEST

VO:25

President Barack Obama says there's good news from the Gulf of Mexico on the latest effort to cut off the oil flowing from a blown-out well. But even though the new cap seems to be holding, Obama says the job isn't finished. He says "we won't be done until we actually know that we've killed the well and that we have a permanent solution in place."

ALL 10,000 CRIME VICTIM VISAS ISSUED FOR THIS YEAR VO :20

The government has issued all 10,000 visas available this year for immigrant crime victims who help authorities investigate and prosecute perpetrators. The last of this fiscal year's supply of the visas, known as U visas, was approved Thursday morning, marking the first time the government has hit the statutory U visa limit since the program became active two years ago. The visas were created as part of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000. They are given to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and other crimes in exchange for cooperation with law enforcement.

FLU VACCINES

VO:25

A two-step flu vaccine using DNA to "prime" the immune system and then a traditional seasonal influenza vaccine may be able to protect against all strains of the virus providing a long-sought "universal" flu vaccine, U.S. researchers said on Thursday. The team at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is already testing the new vaccine in people and says the results of tests in mice, ferrets and monkeys suggest the industry

may finally be able to dump the cumbersome process of making fresh flu vaccines every year.

DRAMATIC RISE IN PAINKILLER DRUG ABUSE: U.S. OFFICIALS VO :24

U.S. officials reported a 400 percent increase over 10 years in the proportion of Americans treated for prescription painkiller abuse and said on Thursday the problem cut across age groups, geography and income. The dramatic jump was higher than treatment admission rates for methamphetamine abuse, which doubled, and marijuana, which increased by almost half, according to figures from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

U.S. GROUPS TARGET 20 POSSIBLE CAUSES OF CANCER VO :21

The American Cancer Society and three federal agencies named 19 chemicals and shift work on Thursday as potential causes of cancer that deserve more investigation. The group published a report with the backing of international experts who said the 20 potential causes they identified had fairly good evidence that they may be a danger and deserved more follow-up.

SNIFFING INSULIN MAY HELP MEMORY LOST TO ALZHEIMER'S VO :19

Squirting insulin up the noses of patients with early forms of Alzheimer's disease showed signs of improving their memory, U.S. researchers said on Wednesday. Patients who got the treatment for four months showed improvements in tests of memory recall that lasted for two months.

FDA REJECTS VIVUS' FAT PILL SENDING SHARES DOWN VO :23

The first new prescription weight-loss pill in more than a decade failed to win backing from U.S. health advisers, who said safety concerns about the drug outweighed its ability to help obese patients shed pounds. Shares of Vivus Inc's sank 62 percent on Thursday after U.S. Food and Drug Administration advisers expressed concern the once-a-day pill could cause depression, memory-loss and potential birth defects if used among millions of overweight or obese Americans.

FINANCIAL OVERHAUL-OBAMA

LOURDES MELUZA / WASHINGTON, DC PKG 2:09 & VO :21

President Barack Obama says businesses have nothing to fear from the financial overhaul bill, unless they cut corners or bilk customers. Obama is expected to sign the bill as early as Wednesday. The Senate, on a 60-39 vote, approved it today -- almost two years after a financial meltdown sent the economy into a recession.

OIL SPILL LATEST LOURDES DEL RIO / MIAMI, FLORIDA PKG 1:41

BP has finally gained control over one of America's biggest environmental catastrophes -- at least for now. The company has placed a carefully fitted cap over the runaway well that has been gushing crude into the Gulf of Mexico since early spring. It's only a temporary fix but it's being greeted with hope and high expectations on the Gulf Coast. But some residents are skeptical. If the cap holds, if the sea floor doesn't crack and if the relief wells being prepared are completed successfully, this could be the beginning of the end for the spill. But that's a lot of ifs, and no one is declaring any sort of victory beyond the moment. Test are being run on the cap to see if it can hold back the oil.

07/19/10

OIL SPILL LATEST

VO:28

Investors fretted about possible seepage from BP's capped Gulf of Mexico well on Monday and speculation grew about assets the company may sell to pay multibillion dollar costs for its oil spill. BP shares, which have been rallying over the past three weeks, slipped 2.6 percent after the top U.S. government spill official said that engineers had detected seepage, raising fears of problems with the cap that stopped oil spewing into the water nearly three months after a rig explosion.

POVERTY AND AIDS

VO:27

A first-of-its-kind government study has found that poverty is perhaps the most important factor in whether inner-city heterosexuals are infected with the AIDS virus. The study says HIV is epidemic in certain poverty-stricken urban neighborhoods. What's more, poor heterosexuals in those neighborhoods are twice as likely to be infected as those who live in the same community but have more money. Federal scientists found race was not a factor. The research was released Monday at the international AIDS conference in Vienna.

TEST TUBE BABIES: MORE CANCER VO :25

For the first time, a large study suggests a higher rate of childhood cancer among test-tube babies. But Swedish researchers say the reason probably has nothing to do with the method. More likely, it's related to the genetics of the parents who used in vitro fertilization because of infertility. The study's authors and other experts say there could be another reason: Test-tube infants often are born prematurely and have breathing problems at birth. Both have also been linked with increased cancer risks. But even with an elevated risk, far less than 1 percent of these children develop cancer. The findings were published online Monday in Pediatrics. Whether similar results would be found among U.S. children is uncertain.

ABORTION INSURANCE POOLS VO :20

The Health and Human Services Department says insurance poolsfor those not able to buy health insurance on their own can no longer cover abortions. The only exceptions are in cases of rape,incest and when the woman's health is at risk. The change is even more restrictive than the new health carelaw. Starting in 2014, federally subsidized health insurance plans can cover abortions, if policyholders pay for coverage separately and the money is not part of government funds.

FLU MICRONEEDLES

VO:18

Researchers developing a new method of vaccine delivery are hoping that one day, people will get their annual flu shots in the mail. Researchers say the new method of vaccine delivery involves a patch with microneedles. They're so small they can't even be felt. Attached to a patch like a Band-Aid, the little needles barely penetrate the skin before they dissolve and

release their vaccine. Researchers led by Mark Prausnitz of Georgia Institute of

Technology reported their research on microneedles in Sunday's edition of Nature Medicine.

07/20/10

HIV GEL VO:24

A gel containing a prescription drug can sharply reduce HIV infections in women, a study described as groundbreaking by the World Health Organization showed on Monday. The gel, containing Gilead Sciences AIDS drug tenofovir, reduced HIV infections in women by 39 percent over two and a half years the first time such an approach has protected against sexual transmission of the virus.

OBAMA UNEMPLOYMENT

VO:23

President Barack Obama is using the fight over jobless benefits to keep the heat on Senate Republicans, even though Democrats now have the votes to break the GOP filibuster. The president continues to portray Republicans as hypocrites for suddenly insisting emergency jobless benefits can't be paid for with borrowing. He notes the GOP have no problem "spending hundreds of billions of dollars on tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans." Obama hopes for more votes in the coming weeks to bolster his argument it's Democrats who are fighting for the little guy. Republicans counter that the real emergency is what's happened to the deficit under Obama and even if jobless benefit extensions used to be paid for with the national credit card, they simply can't any longer.

07/21/10

KAGAN SUP. COURT CONFIRMATION

VO: 22

Pushing toward an election-year Supreme Court confirmation vote, a polarized Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday approved Elena Kagan to be the fourth female justice. Just one Republican joined Democrats to approve Kagan's nomination and send it to the full Senate, where she's expected to win confirmation within weeks.

SENATE UNEMPLOYMENT VOTE TODAY VO: 23

The Senate is expected to finally pass a bill Wednesday that would extend unemployment benefits for some 2.5 million Americans who have exhausted them. Democrats overcame a Republican filibuster Tuesday with the support of Maine's two Republican senators and the new senator from West Virginia. After a final Senate vote, the bill goes back to the House, which is expected to approve it. President Barack Obama thanked senators for acting accused Republicans of holding the unemployed hostage through obstruction and game playing.

OBAMA FINANCIAL REFORM TODAY VO: 22

President Barack Obama plans to sign a sweeping remake of financial market rules brought on by the market meltdown of two years ago. The president sees today's signing as a landmark and calls the legislation "the toughest financial reforms since the aftermath of the Great Depression." Obama reiterated the governments intent to prevent another financial catastrophe. The plan gives the Feds new powers to close failing banks, monitor consumer loans and regulate derivatives. Obama says that will build markets less prone to collapse. His foes call it over-regulation. The signing's taking place at the Reagan International Trade Building, and the White House has invited some 400 lawmakers, business leaders and average Americans hit by the financial crisis.

07/23/10

OTHER IMMIGRATION LAWS

VO:23

The two lawsuits filed Wednesday against a small Nebraska city for its ban on hiring and renting to illegal immigrants worried some in the community that it would only worsen tensions over the new ordinance. The American Civil Liberties Union and the Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund, also known as MALDEF, filed lawsuits against Fremont, saying the voter-approved ordinance amounted to discrimination.

HEART RISK AND EATING FISH VO :21

Middle-aged and older men who eat fish every day are less likely than infrequent fish eaters to develop a collection of risk factors for heart disease, diabetes and stroke, a new study suggests. Whether a fishy diet itself is the reason for the benefit is not clear from the findings.

PROBLEMS WITH HOME GENETIC TESTS VO:22

People who send off their saliva to genetic testing companies to find out their risk for prostate cancer or diabetes are likely to get different results, depending on the company they choose, government investigators told lawmakers on Thursday. Their undercover investigation of four unnamed genetic testing companies, in which five people sent away their DNA for testing, showed that the tests produced inconsistent results for the same disease 68 percent of the time.

"SOME" CAFFEINE DURING PREGNANCY VO:20

A cup of coffee a day during pregnancy probably won't increase a woman's risk of miscarriage or premature birth, The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists said today. Until recently, studies have had conflicting findings about the effect of moderate caffeine consumption on pregnancy complications.

07/26/10

MENTALLY DISABLED DEPORTATION VO :20

A new report says thousands of mentally disabled immigrants are entangled in deportation proceedings each year. Human Rights Watch and the American Civil Liberties Union say they receive little or no legal help, leaving them defenseless and detained as their fates are decided. Shortcomings include no right to appointed counsel, inflexible detention

policies, insufficient guidance for judges on handling people with mental disabilities, and inadequately coordinated services to aid detainees while in custody. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the agency which arrests and detains people facing deportation. It's hosting a national forum in September to get input from mental health experts on ways to improve its practices.

DEVICE INJURIES KIDS

VO:27

Government research says contact lenses are the top cause of medical device complications in kids. U.S. Food and Drug Administration researchers found that more than 70,000 children and teens get emergency room treatment each year for medical device-related problems. Many problems are things like infections and eye abrasions in contact lens wearers. These can result from wearing contact lenses too long without cleaning them. Other problems include puncture wounds from needle injections of medicine or illegal drugs, and infections from implanted shunts and catheters in chronically ill kids.

GENES TEST

VO:23

Looks like spitomics finally got its comeuppance. That's what I call the growing and lucrative field of personalized genetic testing, which asks you to spit into a plastic cup and then send the sample off to a lab. Promoters promise you can find out whether you're at risk for cancer or heart disease, likely to have problems with certain drugs or if you'd better change your diet to avoid grisly medical problems. The companies that have entered the field do not operate with any required level of accuracy in their testing. Nor do they have any national guidelines for how to counsel clients about the "results" of testing.

DOWNING DIET SODA TIED TO RISK OF PREMATURE BIRTH VO :22

New research suggests that drinking lots of artificially sweetened beverages may be linked with an increased risk of premature births. "It may be non-optional for pregnant women to have high consumption of these types of products," Dr. Thorhallur I. Halldorsson of the Statens Serum Institut in Copenhagen, one of the researchers on the study, told Reuters Health.Diet" drinks are widely promoted as a healthy alternative to sugary

sodas and juices, but Halldorsson and his colleagues note that there's been little research on the safety of regular consumption of artificial sweeteners in humans. Soft drinks both artificially sweetened and sugar sweetened were recently linked to high blood pressure, the researchers add, which increases the risk of premature delivery.

OBESITY / TEENAGERS SURGERY VO :23

A gastric band is just what it sounds like: an inflatable silicone band placed around the top portion of the stomach to create a pouch that restricts food intake. It has become increasingly popular in the United States in recent years, andresults in reasonable weight loss. The procedure is considered less invasive and risky than gastric bypass.Banding could also be an especially attractive option for teens, say proponents, because it is reversible, whereas bypass is not. The 30- to 60-minute procedure, typically performed with a laparoscope, might require one night in the hospital but can also be done on an outpatient basis. But certain data show gastric bands are less effective and more problematic for teens than adults, said Dr. Thomas Inge, chair of a government study to assess bariatric surgery in adolescents called Teen Longitudinal Assessment of Bariatric Surgery, or Teen-LABS for short.

BABY RECLINER RECALL ON CAMERA :25

Portable baby recliners that are supposed to help fussy babies sleep better are being recalled after the death of an infant. The Consumer Product Safety Commission announced the recall Monday of 30,000 Nap Nanny recliners made by Baby Matters of Berwyn, Pa. The commission says it's investigating a report that a 4-month-old girl from Royal Oak, Mich., died in a Nap Nanny that was being used in a crib. The agency says it is aware of 22 reports of infants, mostly under 5 months, falling over the side of the Nap Nanny despite most of the babies being strapped into the harness on the recliner.

07/27/10

IMMIGRANT GROUPS CRITICIZE FINGERPRINT INITIATIVE

VO:24

The federal government is rapidly expanding a program to identify illegal immigrants using fingerprints from arrests, drawing opposition from local authorities and advocates who argue the initiative amounts to an excessive dragnet. The program has gotten less attention than Arizona's new immigration law, but it may end up having a bigger impact because of its potential to round up and deport so many immigrants nationwide. The San Francisco sheriff wanted nothing to do with the program, and the City Council in Washington, D.C., blocked use of the fingerprint plan in the nation's capital. Colorado is the latest to debate the program, called Secure Communities, and immigrant groups have begun to speak up, telling the governor in a letter last week that the initiative will make crime victims reluctant to cooperate with police "due to fear of being drawn into the immigration regime.

HEALTHBEAT-AGE OF BLOOD VO :29

It's a question with big implications for the nation's already tight blood supply. Blood is rotated almost like milk on the grocery shelf: The Food and Drug Administration allows red blood cells to be stored for 42days, and hospitals almost always use the oldest in their refrigerators first to ensure none expires. How old the blood you receive is depends on how much the hospital has of your type that day. The average age of transfused blood is just over 16 days. This summer, hospitals around the country are launching major new research to try to settle if fresher blood really is better for at least some patients. Several years ago, a number of small studies began suggesting that blood well under the FDA's 42-day storage limit may increase the risk of complications like blood clots, infections, or organ dysfunction.

PEDIATRIC GROUP ISSUES NEW LICE RECOMMENDATIONS VO :25

Kids shouldn't be forced to miss school because they have head lice, according to a new report from the American Academy of Pediatrics. The report also says that pediatricians should be more involved in the management of lice because parents might not always know the best treatment. The new report is unlikely to end humankind's age-old struggle against the itch_inducing bugs, but it is intended to alert the public to the various ways to solve lice infestations in schools and to inform on the resistance of lice to certain treatments and the new methods of treatment

emerging today. Lice infestation is not life threatening, but the stigma of lice has led parents to attempt dangerous methods of treatment ranging from acetone, bleach and WD-40 to loosen eggs from the hair, to dousing their children's scalps with gasoline. When all else fails, parents have been known to resort to shaving their children's heads, an effective option for getting rid of lice and their eggs, but traumatic nonetheless.

EDUCATION LOWERS DEMENTIA RISK, SAYS STUDY VO:23

A team of experts from the University of Cambridge examined why people who engage themselves in education have reduced risk of developing dementia. Experts evaluated the brains of 872 people who had previously been a part of three large ageing studies and who had completed questionnaires about their education before their death. They identified that more education helps people cope with alterations in the brain which are linked with dementia.

LOW RISK PROSTATE CANCER TREATED AGGRESSIVELY VO :24

Many men with low-risk prostate cancer get aggressive treatment, increasing the risk of serious side effects, U.S. researchers said on Monday. They said more than 40 percent of men who fell below the current standard forgetting a biopsy had their prostates removed surgically, and a third had radiation therapy.

CAN A MOTHER'S AFFECTION PREVENT ANXIETY IN ADULTHOOD? VO :25

Babies whose mothers are attentive and caring tend to grow into happy, well-adjusted children. But the psychological benefits of having a doting mother may extend well beyond childhood, a new study suggests babies who receive above-average levels of affection and attention from their mothers are less likely than other babies to grow up to be emotionally distressed, anxious, or hostile adults.

07/28/10

FBI-CHEATING

VO: 19

The Justice Department is investigating whether hundreds of FBI agents cheated on a test of new rules allowing the bureau to conduct surveillance and open cases without evidence that a crime has been committed. In some instances, agents took the open-book test together, violating rules that they take it alone. Others finished the lengthy exam unusually quickly, current and former officials said. Depending on the outcome of the investigation, agents could be disciplined or even fired.

07/29/10

UNIVISION POLL-HISPANICS

VO: 23

An Associated Press-Univision poll that examined the attitudes of Latino adults toward higher education. Despite strong belief in the value of a college diploma, Hispanics more often than not fall short of that goal. Census figures show that only 13 percent of Hispanics have a bachelor's degree or higher, compared with 30 percent among Americans overall. The poll revealed some of the roadblocks: Latinos don't have enough money, yet many are reluctant to borrow. Family obligations intervene. Parents and teachers provide only lukewarm support. Fifty-four percent said their own parents either did not expect them to go to college, or did not care either way.

OBAMA EDUCATION

VO: 22

President Barack Obama is defending his education policies Thursday before critics at the National Urban League. Obama will speak at the organization's centennial conference. In excerpts released ahead of his speech, Obama says his "Race to the Top" initiative is meant to help turn around failing schools and provide support to teachers. Obama says the goal of the more than \$4 billion program is to spur innovative reform in states. The National Urban League was one of eight civil rights groups that released a report this week, calling the administration's education initiative an ineffective approach for improving failing schools that leaves out many minority students.

07/30/10

OIL SPILL LATEST

VO: 29

Incoming BP CEO Bob Dudley was set to outline his company's long-term efforts to help the Gulf of Mexico recover from the oil spill Friday morning, and will be getting help from a Clinton administration-era emergency management official. The oil giant said Dudley would be in Biloxi, Miss., to announce that former Federal Emergency Management Agency head James Lee Witt will support its recovery efforts. Local officials, especially in Louisiana, have been clamoring for more long-term commitments in the face of reports that the oil spill is dissipating, at least on the water's surface.

STUDY: CALCIUM MAY INCREASE HEART ATTACK RISK

VO: 29

An analysis of close to a dozen clinical trials involving about 12,000 patients found calcium supplementation to be associated with a 20% to 30% increase in heart attack risk.

AVIATION SAFETY

VO: 27

The House has passed far-reaching aviation safety legislation developed in response to a deadly commuter airline crash in western New York last year. The safety measures were approved without opposition late Thursday, with Senate action expected on Friday. The bill is an attempt to force airlines to hire more experienced pilots, investigate their previous employment more thoroughly and train them better. It also would require the Federal Aviation Administration to overhaul regulations governing pilot work schedules.

======END OF REPORT ==============